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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing below of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): Apparatus for connecting an outermost end of a telescopically extendable passenger bridge to a door located on an aircraft body, wherein the door is located on one side of the aircraft and aft of and below the level of an aircraft wing tip, said apparatus comprising:

a passenger bridge including a telescopically extendable inner part and a telescopically extendable outer part, wherein an inner end of the inner part of the passenger bridge is pivotally connected to a rotunda adjacent to a terminal building for pivotal movement in a vertical plane relative to the rotunda, and wherein the outer part of the passenger bridge includes at an outermost end a cabin for placement against an aircraft at an aircraft door;

drive means having wheels and connected to the passenger bridge for moving the bridge, wherein the drive means is positioned at an outer end of the inner part of the passenger bridge for moving the outer end of the inner part of the bridge toward and away from a wing of the aircraft;

a ground-mounted vertical pillar for supporting the rotunda and including lifting means to change the length of the pillar and thereby displace the rotunda and the inner end of the inner part of the bridge in a vertical direction relative to the terminal building;

displacement means carried by the drive means for varying the vertical position relative to the wing of the aircraft of the outer end of the inner part of the passenger bridge and of an inner end of the outer part of the bridge in a vertical ~~plane~~ direction relative to the inner end of the inner part of said bridge;

whereby subsequent to an aircraft being parked for connection to the passenger bridge, the passenger bridge is movable by the drive means from a parking position to a docking position, wherein the height and the inclination relative to the ground of the inner part of the passenger bridge ~~is~~ are adjustable by actuating the lifting means and by actuating the displacement means to achieve a desired height above ~~the ground~~ an upper surface of the aircraft wing and a desired inclination relative to the ground of the inner part of the bridge, and wherein the drive means is movable to telescopically extend the innner part of the bridge and to move the drive means close to a leading edge of the aircraft wing ~~and the inner part of the bridge is telescopically extendable~~;

pivoting means for pivoting the outer part of the bridge relative to the inner part ~~in a vertical plane~~ about a horizontal pivot axis to move the outer part of the bridge between a position at which the outermost end of the outer part of the bridge is above the longitudinal axis of the inner part of the bridge to allow the outer part of the bridge to clear the wing and the wing tip of the aircraft, and a position at which the outermost end of the outer part of the bridge is below the longitudinal axis of the inner part of the bridge to allow the cabin to be positioned at an aircraft door; and

means for telescopically extending the outer part so that an outermost end of the outer part of the bridge is at an end position at which the cabin is docked adjacent to a passenger door in the aircraft body.

Claim 2 (previously presented): Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inner part of the passenger bridge and the outer part of the bridge are each movable vertically, and wherein the outer part of the passenger bridge is vertically movable to a position at which the outer part of the passenger bridge can pass freely over an upper surface of the wing of the aircraft.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 2, ~~wherein the outer part of the passenger bridge is hingedly connected to the inner part of the bridge for relative pivotal movement about a substantially horizontal pivot axis;~~ wherein the vertical position of the outer end of the outer part of the bridge is adjustable by the pivoting means; and wherein the pivoting means extends between and acts upon the outer end of the inner part of the bridge and the inner end of the outer part of the bridge for relative pivotal movement of the inner and outer bridge parts about the pivot axis, so that by actuating the lifting means and the displacement means of the drive means an inclination angle of the inner part relative to the ground is adjustable, and by actuating the pivoting means an inclination angle relative to the ground of the outer part is adjustable for passenger comfort during boarding and disembarking.